

Then you refer to the Haripad-Elanjimel road, the beginning of which you showed me, as also the Mundattinkara canal. In regard to these two works, I shall place myself in correspondence with the Chief Engineer. You say that there is a grant in regard to the former. I shall find out how it is utilised and what it would cost to construct the canal.

In regard to the hospital, what you want is the conversion of the dispensary into a hospital. This is a big proposal involving a heavy outlay.

Member.—I do not mean that immediately. I only request that a new building might be put up for the dispensary.

Dewan.—The present buildings are all right, but they are in a low place. No doubt, it would be a very good thing to have buildings on the new site. It means money again. We shall take up the work as soon as we can.

In regard to the English School, I remember to have told you when I went to Haripad that Government would welcome the conversion of the school into an aided institution in pursuance of the policy of the Government not to open more departmental English Schools but to do everything it can to further the opening of aided schools and even to convert the existing departmental schools into aided ones. If you can only manage to run the school yourselves, Government would be very glad to help you and place the existing school buildings at your disposal. The opening of English girls' schools is a matter in regard to which Government have not laid down any definite policy. I shall see how far it is possible to help you in that direction.

As regards the railway, any discussion about the alignment is premature, because the survey of the railway has not yet been decided on.

73. Means of communication in the Kartikapalli taluk.

Mr. K. Velayudhan Pillai (Member, Municipal Council, Haripad) began by explaining the importance of the Kartikapalli taluk and prayed for the following works.

In regard to roads, the first request of the Member was the metalling of the road from Kayankulam to Nangiyarkulangara. It was about six miles long and if it could be metalled and improved, it would serve as an easy approach to the vast area of paddy lands that lay on both sides of the road and would facilitate traffic in view of its close proximity to the town of Kayankulam. Secondly, the early construction of the Haripad-Tottapalli road about 5 miles in length was urged. The Member next requested that the maintenance grant of Rs. 175 per mile for the Trikunnappuzha road might be ordered to be properly utilised. He also prayed for early repairs to a bridge 20 feet in length at the easternmost end of that road where it joined the Kartikapalli bazaar. The Member then pleaded for the deepening and improvement of the Mundattinkara *thodu* which was the principal source of irrigation for 10,000 *paras* of paddy lands on both sides of it. The fertility of those lands had gone down owing to the canal becoming silted up in most places. The improvement to the Thana *thodu* was the last work urged. This canal branched off from the Payipattu river, a tributary of the Pampa, flowed through the middle of the taluk to a distance of six miles and then joined the Kayankulam backwater. It was too narrow for traffic even during the monsoon season, but it was a very useful opening to the Kayankulam backwater and, if improved, would be of great help to the trading classes at Haripad who usually brought in goods from Alleppey and other places.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to the Ambalapuzha-Haripad road, the line *via* Takazhi has been settled. A sum of Rs. 20,000 has been sanctioned for the work for the current year and arrangements have been made for the whole amount being spent during the year.

As regards the Trikunnappuzha-Mavelikara road, a sum of Rs. 3,000 has been sanctioned for being spent in respect of a portion of this road this year. If

the people are willing to take up the work themselves, the amount will be handed over to them.

74. Certain pressing needs of the Pattanamtitta Taluk.

Mr. Kurien Unnissan (Member, Pattanamtitta Taluk) represented that the establishment of a Munsiff's court was one of the most pressing needs of the Pattanamtitta taluk. The litigant public of the locality had been moving for this court from 1079. When in 1080 the High Court contemplated the separation of a portion of the area within the jurisdiction of the Tiruvalla Munsiff's court owing to the heavy arrears of work of that court and to take it on to Chengannur or Pattanamtitta and to open an additional court in any one of the places best suited for it, a deputation from Pattanamtitta waited on the Judges of the High Court and submitted their grievances which were sympathetically heard; but unfortunately Chengannur was preferred to Pattanamtitta. As the latter had no treasury at the time two additional courts were established, one at Mavelikara and the other at Adur with a view to reduce the volume of work in the Kottarakara and Krishnapuram courts. The court at Adur did not justify its existence as the volume of work was very small. The Member suggested that it might be shifted to Sastamkotta with certain portions of the Karunagapalli taluk brought under its jurisdiction and that a new court might be established at Pattanamtitta with jurisdiction over the Pattanamtitta taluk and some *pakuthies* of the Kunnattur and Chengannur taluks. This new court would be of much help to the people of Ranni, Kumpazha, Pattanamtitta, Elantur, Mallappuzhasseri, Cherukole, Omallur, Vallikode, Koduman, Pantalām Vadakkekara and Pantalām Tekkekara. The Member pointed out that at present they had to take their cases to the courts at Chengannur and Adur, the distance to the former being 40 miles and to the latter 28 miles.

To the Member who brought forward this subject at the seventeenth session of the Assembly, the Dewan gave a reply stating that the Additional Munsiff's Court established at Kottarakara would be transferred to Pattanamtitta as soon as the arrears in the Kottarakara Munsiff's Court were finished; but, subsequently, that order was cancelled and it was decided that the additional court should be transferred to Perumpayur and that there was no need for a Munsiff's Court at Pattanamtitta. This, the Member observed, was a source of sore disappointment to the people of Pattanamtitta. He, therefore, prayed that the said additional court be established at Pattanamtitta in conformity with the first order.

The Member next spoke about the need for a hospital at Ranni. The nearest hospitals at Kozhancheri, Koni and Kanjirapalli were situated at a distance of 24, 20 and 18 miles respectively. The roads leading to those institutions were not in proper order and considerable inconvenience was experienced in consequence. The need for a hospital at Ranni was moved at the fourteenth session of the Assembly. The Member regretted that, while there were medical institutions within short distances of each other in other places, it was a pity that Ranni which was a mountainous place subject to malarial fever and other diseases had none. He, therefore, prayed for the early establishment of a hospital at Ranni.

The last representation of the Member related to means of communication. The Member said that, if two bridges were constructed, one over the Kumbazha river and the other over the Ranni river, easy and direct communication between Trivandrum and the High Range could be established and the circuitous route now taken to Peermade *via* Kottayam could be avoided. He, therefore, prayed for the construction of the two bridges referred to.

Dewan's reply.—The establishment of a Munsiff's Court is a matter in which the High Court have to be consulted. The representation made on the subject at the last session of the Assembly was forwarded to the High Court, and the High Court